

**Chairman's Report and Executive Director's Report:
Thursday, May 25, 2000**

1. Call to Order.

PAT: Welcome, and then call on Juanita Crane, our temporary employee.

2. Public Comments.

PAT: This is the time on the agenda set aside for public comments on matters NOT on tonight's agenda.

3. Minutes of Last Meeting.

PAT: Are there changes or corrections to the draft minutes of the March meeting?

PAT: Needs a MOTION, a SECOND, and a VOICE VOTE.

4. Chairman's Report.

5. Commissioner Comments/Announcements.

PAT: This is a time for Commissioner comments or announcements.

6. Attorney General's Report.

PAT: Call on Dan Siegel

7. Executive Director's Report.

PAT: Call on Margit:

MARGIT:

I have prepared a written copy of my report.

You received in the mailing packet:

- Pending Projects Memo
For your information, the Lodi Gas Storage and Pipeline project was recently approved by the California Public Utilities Commission. The project includes a pipeline from Lodi to Sherman Island. I did submit comments on the proposed project, emphasizing concerns about adverse impacts to agricultural land due to subsidence over pipelines and the tendency of pipelines to "float" to the surface. I have obtained the current pipeline alignment and summary of key conditions for your information.

- Update on Pending Legislation
 - Update on Category III Ecosystem Grants
- You will note in the list of projects in the Delta submitted to CALFED, application for funds to purchase Staten Island. The current owners have put both the M&T Ranches up for sale--there is one in the north part of the State as well. The Nature Conservancy who has been negotiating the purchase of an easement to protect wildlife friendly agriculture on the Ranch is now requesting funds for full acquisition of the Ranch. The Ranch is very important for seasonal wildlife use and important as part of a solution of the flooding problems associated with the Cosumnes-Mokelumne Corridor. The Nature Conservancy intends to ensure that wildlife friendly agriculture continues on the Ranch and will be glad to come to the Commission at the July meeting to discuss their proposal in more detail.

All prepared by Lori Clamurro--are there any questions?

Handouts:

Public Hearing for Big Break Park sponsored by East Bay Regional Park District

Circulating: A final seismic report on Delta levees prepared by CALFED.
A memo from USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service supporting participation in the wetlands conservation program.

Since the last meeting:

Debby Eddy has gone on a medical leave and hopes to be back mid-October. I am very pleased to introduce Juanita Crane, a temporary employee, who is doing an excellent job helping out.

The contract with State Lands Commission for Administrative and Budget Services has been signed and their service has been excellent--by all staff involved.

Meetings attended by staff since the last meeting include:

Retreat/One Day meeting for directors of all the agencies in the Resources Agency.

Two meetings of the Technical Advisory Panel for the Delta Dredging Reuse Strategy (CALFED-funded project).

Two meetings of the Delta Levees and Habitat Advisory Committee.

Meeting with Sacramento County Parks Department staff about projects in the Delta.
Senate Budget Hearing on the Commission's funds for FY 00-01.

Meeting with CalTrans staff to review the Highway 160 guardrail project.

CALFED Meetings: Policy Group Meeting; BDAC Meeting; Management Team Meetings; Levees and Channels Technical Work Group; Meeting of the Ad Hoc Recreation Group (CALFED); Meeting of CALFED North Delta Improvements Group.

Assisted in final steps in preparation of a new Category III grant application for Delta In-Channel Islands Pilot Project (Phase II-construction).

A workshop held to develop ideas of how to address problems in the historic community of Locke: need sewage treatment system upgrade and method to address underlying land ownership.

Meeting with new Port of Stockton Director, Richard Aeschierus regarding opportunities for dredge material reuse in the Delta with other members of the Delta Levees and Habitat Advisory Committee.

Great Valley Center's Mosaic Conference

Resource person for tour of Delta for Water Education Foundation Water Leadership program.

Meeting with the State Clearinghouse re: Delta Protection Commission

Update on CALFED:

CALFED is currently being discussed in high level meetings between the Secretary of the Interior and representatives of the Governor and the Secretary for Resources. The BDAC--the forum for stakeholder and public discussion-- of the CALFED program has held its last meeting. The co-chairs have prepared a letter to CALFED; you received a copy tonight. The Policy Group meeting for May 24 was cancelled. The schedule for the final environmental impact report is all changes to be in by June 19; with printing and release for public review in July. I believe the current proposal is to release the FEIR first, and then release a draft Record of Decision for a 30-day circulation. Final actions are expected in September.

Miscellaneous Reminder: All travel claims for FY 99-00 are due on July 1, so any Commissioners that file for travel expenses should submit those to staff as soon as possible.

8. Briefing on CalTrans Proposal to Install Guardrails on Highway 160, Sacramento County.

PAT: CalTrans staff will update the Commission on the status of the project to install guardrails along most of the 22 miles of Highway between Paintersville Bridge and Sherman Island. I understand Richard de la Cruz is here. Let's first have a report from staff.

MARGIT: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Since the last meeting I prepared and mailed a letter summarizing issues raised by the Commission--that letter is attached to your staff report. Staff attended the public meeting and as a follow-up, staff went to the CalTrans office and reviewed the mapped information about the proposed guardrail project. I want to clarify that the project is only in Sacramento County. In the staff report in your packet, I have added some new information--that new information is in bold type. In addition, the staff report includes some ideas that could be evaluated if there is the opportunity to study the safety issues on Highway 160 before a final project is implemented. You'll note the length of highway is really several segments; the area south of Highway 12 to mid-Sherman Island was widened by CalTrans in 1994 to have two lanes plus eight foot wide shoulders--this section has the most traffic. There is less traffic on the segment from Highway 12 north to the Isleton

Bridge; less on the segment from Isleton Bridge to Walnut Grove Bridge; and the least traffic from the Walnut Grove Bridge north to the Paintersville Bridge. There is a unique combination of truck traffic, commuter traffic, recreational vehicles and traffic, local traffic, and agricultural vehicles. Traffic varies in time of day and time of year. In summary, this is a challenging road to drive, staff supports efforts to increase public safety, and recommend that the Commission consider the approach presented by Cal Trans as well as the model used in developing safety improvements for Highway 12.

PAT: Are there questions of staff?

PAT: Call on Richard de la Cruz.

RICHARD....

PAT: Are there questions of CalTrans staff?

PAT: I am going to open the floor to public comment--please address the Commission and if have a question, I am going to ask CalTrans staff to note all questions and answer them at the end of the public comments.

PAT: Close the public hearing.

PAT: CalTrans staff--please answer questions.

PAT: Bring the matter back to the Commission for discussion.

NOTE: If action, please state clearly what the Commission wants to do--
NEED a MOTION, a SECOND, and a VOICE VOTE.

9. Staff Report on Steps to Proceed with Adoption of Policies in the "Land Use and Resource Management Plan for the Primary Zone of the Delta" as Regulations.

PAT: Staff will outline steps and a timeline for adoption of the Plan policies as regulations, as required by the Administrative Procedures Act and advice from Office of Administrative Law Staff.

PAT: Call on MARGIT.

MARGIT: Mr. Chairman, at the last meeting, the Commission asked staff to move forward with an action plan for adopting the Commission's Plan as regulations. Upon consultation with the Attorney General's office, this is the proposed approach. Our legal advisors believe this will cover all loose ends protect the integrity of the Plan. We have received approval from the Attorney General's office to hire a legal assistant

to help with the preparation of material on an as-needed basis. I am working with State Lands Commission staff to prepare an Inter Agency Agreement.

Staff is ready to move forward and seek your formal acceptance of this action plan for implementation.

PAT: DAN, any other comments?

PAT: Any questions of staff?

PAT: Any public comments?

PAT: Commissioners---any discussion?

Need a MOTION, a SECOND, and a VOICE VOTE.

10. Discussion of Outcomes of the Strategic Planning Subcommittee Meeting

PAT: The Commission will discuss the ideas generated by the Strategic Planning Subcommittee.

PAT: Call on Margit

MARGIT: First, you should know that the Strategic Planning Subcommittee has recommended a picnic and we have selected the Pear Fair in Courtland on the last Sunday in July as an appropriate location and time. Commissioner McGowan has also asked located Delta graphic artist Dan Harris to design a T-shirt for this event and we will let you know the design and the cost to order a shirt.

The Strategic Planing Subcommittee has met twice since the last dpc meeting, trying to flesh out the ideas from the February workshop, add some specific projects to the Commission's work plan for next year as well as move forward with a strategic plan for Commission consideration.

FILL IN HERE.

PAT: Call on Mike McGowan and other Subcommittee members: Marci Coglianese, Ron Brean and Christopher Cabaldon.

PAT: Open the floor to public comment.

PAT: Bring the matter back to the Commission for discussion.

PAT: Need to give staff direction---probably set a public hearing for the next meeting--no formal action needed.

11. Adoption of Work Plan and Budget for Fiscal Year 00-01.

PAT: The Commission will review and possibly adopt the draft work plan and budget for next fiscal year.

MARGIT: The Budget and Finance Subcommittee has reviewed the proposed work plan and budget for next fiscal year. The Commission will receive slightly more money this year, from two special funds. The first major task of the staff is to process the Commission policies as regulations; the Attorney General's office has agreed to provide legal assistance through an interagency agreement. The agreement has been drafted and is being processed by State lands Commission staff. There is one other proposed contract, to Teale Data Center for less than half the funds set aside last year. The Teale work has been at about that level this year, and most of the tasks included in last years contract have been completed. We are attempted to create a third permanent position which will add slightly to the total salaries in the budget. I would be glad to review any other issues associated with the work plan and the budget.

PAT: Are there any questions of staff?

PAT: Are there any public comments?

PAT: Is there any Commission discussion

PAT: Needs MOTION, SECOND, and VOICE VOTE.

12. Adjourn.